

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Peter A. Chiabotti on 12/16/2009.

In the specification: Please replace paragraph from lines 17 - 25 on page 49 to line 1-16 on page 50 with below paragraph:

The address book object 108, the email user agent 106, the IM user agent 104, the tray manager 102, and other objects instantiated by these components may be implemented as a computer program, which comprises an ordered listing of executable instructions for implementing logical functions. As such the address book object 108, the email user agent 106, the IM user agent 104, the tray manager 102, the address book database 110, and other objects instantiated by these components can be embodied in any computer-readable medium for use by or in connection with an instruction execution system, apparatus, or device, such as a computer-based system, processor-containing system, or other system that can fetch the instructions from the instruction execution system, apparatus, or device and execute the instructions. In the context of this document, a "computer-readable medium" can be any means that can contain, store, communicate, propagate, or

transport the program for use by or in connection with the instruction execution system, apparatus, or device. The computer-readable medium can be, for example but not limited to, an electronic, magnetic, optical, electromagnetic, infrared, or semiconductor system, apparatus, device, or propagation medium. More specific examples (a nonexhaustive list) of the computer-readable medium would include the following: an electrical connection (electronic) having one or more wires, a portable computer diskette (magnetic), a random access memory (RAM) (electronic), a read-only memory (ROM) (electronic), an erasable programmable read-only memory (EPROM or Flash memory) (electronic), an optical fiber (optical), and a portable compact disc read-only memory (CDROM) (optical). Note that the computer-readable medium could even be paper or another suitable medium upon which the program is printed, as the program can be electronically captured via, for instance, optical scanning of the paper or other medium, then compiled, interpreted or otherwise processed in a suitable manner if necessary, and then stored in a computer memory. A computer readable storage medium includes a portable computer diskette (magnetic), a random access memory (RAM), a read-only memory (ROM), an erasable programmable read-only memory (EPROM or Flash memory), and a portable compact disc read-only memory (CDROM).

In claims:

Please replace claim 1, 2, 3, 6, 11, 13, 15, 19-20 with amended claims 1, 2, 3, 6, 11, 13, 15, 19-20.

Please cancel claims 9 and 17.

1. (Currently Amended) A method processed by a computing device at a user location, the method comprising:

receiving user input, the user input comprising multiple instant messaging (IM) addresses of a contact of a user, the multiple IM addresses comprising IM addresses from different IM accounts, each IM account of the different IM accounts being configured to transmit and receive IM messages using a different IM protocol;

upon receiving a single login name and password, automatically logging the user into all of IM accounts of the user and email accounts of the user;

receiving, by the computing device at the user location, an instant messaging (IM) address of a contact of a user;

receiving, by the computing device at the user location, an email address of the contact of the user;

receiving, by the computing device at the user location, an instant messaging (IM) address of the IM addresses of the contact of the user, an email address of the contact of the user, and a reference identifier (ID), the reference identifier (ID) being an alphanumeric code and being adapted configured to identify the contact of the user, wherein the reference identifier (ID) is distinct from the received instant messaging (IM) address and the email address, the reference identifier (ID) identifying the contact of the user without requiring parsing of the reference identifier (ID);

permitting the user to access all of the user's emails from all of the user's email accounts without manually accessing separate the email accounts;

correlating, by the computing device at the user location, the IM address to the reference identifier;

correlating, by the computing device at the user location, the email address to the reference identifier (ID);

providing, by the computing device at the user location, an email receive window that configured to display a received email, the email receive window configured to provide IM presence information associated with the IM address of the contact of the user, the email receive window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for automatically and directly launching a IM session with the contact from the email receive window, the email receive window including a launch IM option for launching the IM session; [[and]]

sequentially attempting to establish an IM session directly from an email read message window with a first IM address in a prioritized order of the plurality of IM addresses, and if the first IM address is not responsive, attempting a second IM address in the prioritized order of the plurality of IM addresses; and

permitting a user to initiate an IM session with contacts at various IM addresses without manually logging into multiple IM accounts, allowing the user types an IM message at a user input window, wherein the typed IM message is translated or reformatted into a native protocol associated with each other participant of other participants' IM services and the typed IM message is displayed to said each other participant of the other participants of the IM services in a IM chat session.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving, by the computing device at the user location, a telephone number of the contact;

correlating, by the computing device at the user location, the telephone number of the contact to the reference identifier (ID);

receiving, by the computing device at the user location, personal information of the contact; and correlating, by the computing device at the user location, the personal information of contact to the reference identifier (ID).

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving, by the computing device at the user location, a telephone number of the contact; correlating, by the computing device at the user location, the telephone number of the contact to the reference identifier (ID).

6. (Currently Amended) A method processed by a computing device at a user location, the method comprising:

receiving, by the computing device at the user location, user input, the user input comprising multiple instant messaging (IM) addresses of an individual contact of a user, the multiple IM addresses comprising IM addresses from different IM accounts, each different IM account of the different IM accounts being configured to transmit and receive IM messages using a different IM protocol;

upon receiving a single login name and password, automatically logging the user into all of IM accounts of the user and email accounts of the user;

receiving, by the computing device at the user location, a IM address, an address of the individual contact, an email address and a reference identifier (ID), the reference identifier (ID) being an alphanumeric code and being configured to identify the individual contact, wherein the reference identifier (ID) is distinct from the received IM address and the email address, the reference identifier (ID) identifying the contact of the user without requiring parsing of the reference identifier (ID);

permitting the user to access all of the user's emails from all of the user's email accounts without manually accessing separate the email accounts;

correlating, by the computing device at the user location, each IM address of the multiple IM addresses to the reference identifier (ID);

correlating, by the computing device at the user location, the address of the contact to the reference identifier (ID);

providing, by the computing device at the user location, an email receive window configured to display a received email, the email receive window configured to provide IM presence information associated with the IM address of the contact of the user, the email receive window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for automatically and directly launching an IM session with the individual contact from the email receive window, the email receive window including a launch IM option for launching the IM session;

sequentially attempting to establish an IM session directly from an email read message window with a first IM address in a prioritized order of the plurality of the IM addresses, and if the first IM address is not responsive, attempting a second IM address in the prioritized order of the plurality of Instant Messaging addresses; and

permitting a user to initiate an IM session with contacts at various IM addresses without manually logging into multiple IM accounts, allowing the user types an IM message at a user input window, wherein the typed IM message is translated or reformatted into native protocol associated with each other participant of the other participants' IM services and the typed IM message is displayed to said each other participant of the other participants in a IM chat session.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium, the storage medium being embedded with computer instructions for causing a computing device to perform the steps of:

first receive logic, processed by the computing device at the user location, the first receive logic configured to receive first user input, the first user input comprising multiple instant messaging (IM) addresses of an individual contact of the user, the multiple IM addresses comprising IM addresses from different IM accounts, each of the different IM accounts being adapted to transmit and receive IM messages using a different IM protocol;

second receive logic, processed by the computing device at the user location, the second receive logic configured to receive second user input, the second user input comprising a reference identifier (ID), the reference identifier (ID) being an alphanumeric code and being adapted to identify the individual contact, wherein the reference identifier (ID) is distinct from the received instant messaging (IM) address and the email address;

correlate logic, processed by the computing device at the user location, the correlate logic configured to correlate each of the multiple IM addresses to the reference identifier (ID), the reference identifier (ID) being adapted to identify the individual contact; and email window logic, processed by the computing device at the user location, to provide an email receive window configured to display a received email, the email receive window configured to provide IM presence information associated with the IM address of the contact of the user, the email receive window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for automatically launching an IM session with the individual contact from the email window, directly from the email receive window, the email receive window including a launch IM option for launching the IM session.

receiving, by the computing device at a user location, user input, the user input comprising multiple instant messaging (IM) addresses of an individual contact of a user, the multiple IM addresses comprising IM addresses from different IM accounts, each different IM account of the different IM accounts being configured to transmit and receive IM messages using a different IM protocol;

upon receiving a single login name and password, automatically logging the user into all of IM accounts of the user and email accounts of the user;

receiving, by the computing device at the user location, a IM address, an address of the individual contact, an email address and a reference identifier (ID), the reference identifier (ID) being an alphanumeric code and being configured to identify the individual contact, wherein the reference identifier (ID) is distinct from the received IM address and the email address, the reference identifier (ID) identifying the contact of the user without requiring parsing of the reference identifier (ID);

permitting the user to access all of the user's emails from all of the user's email accounts without manually accessing separate the email accounts;

correlating, by the computing device at the user location, each IM address of the multiple IM addresses to the reference identifier (ID);

correlating, by the computing device at the user location, the address of the contact to the reference identifier (ID);

providing, by the computing device at the user location, an email receive window configured to display a received email, the email receive window configured to provide IM presence information associated with the IM address of the contact of the user, the email receive window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for automatically and directly launching an IM session with the individual contact from the email receive window, the email receive window including a launch IM option for launching the IM session;

sequentially attempting to establish an IM session directly from an email read message window with a first IM address in a prioritized order of the plurality of the IM addresses, and if the first IM address is not responsive, attempting a second IM address in the prioritized order of the plurality of Instant Messaging addresses; and
permitting a user to initiate an IM session with contacts at various IM addresses without manually logging into multiple IM accounts, allowing the user types an IM message at a user input window, wherein the typed IM message is translated or reformatted into native protocol associated with each other participant of the other participants' IM services and the typed IM message is displayed to said each other participant of the other participants in a IM chat session.

13. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 11, further comprising: receiving, by the computing device at the user location, an email address of the individual contact; and correlating, by the computing device at the user location the email address of the individual contact to the reference identifier (ID).

15. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 11, further comprising: receiving, by the computing device at the user location, a telephone number of the individual contact; and means for correlating, by the computing device at the user location, the telephone number of the individual contact to the reference identifier (ID).

19. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 11, further comprising: receiving, by the computing device at the user location, personal information of the individual contact; and means for correlating, by the computing device at the user location, the personal information of individual contact to the reference identifier (ID).

20. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 11, further comprising a memory component configured to store at least one of the following: a first receive logic, a second receive logic, a correlate logic and an email window logic.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-16, 18-20 are allowed.

None of the prior art of record teach or fairly suggest the combination of steps as recited in independent claims 1, 6 and 11, wherein:

upon receiving a single login name and password, automatically logging the user into all of IM accounts of the user and various email accounts of the user; permitting the user to access all of the user's emails from all of the user's various email accounts without manually accessing separate the email accounts; providing, by the computing device at the user location, an email receive window configured to display a received email, the email receive window configured to provide IM presence information associated with the IM address of the contact of the user, the email receive window configured to utilize the reference identifier (ID) for automatically and directly launching an IM session with the individual contact from the email receive window, the email receive window including a launch IM option for launching the IM session; sequentially attempting to establish an IM session directly from an email read message window with a first IM address in a prioritized order of the plurality of the IM addresses, and if the first IM address is not responsive, attempting a second IM address in the prioritized order of the plurality of Instant Messaging addresses; permitting a user to initiate an IM session with contacts at various IM addresses without manually logging into multiple IM accounts, allowing the user types an IM message at a user input window, wherein the typed IM message is translated or reformatted into native protocol associated with each

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other participant of the other participants' IM services and the typed IM message is displayed to said each other participant of the other participants in a IM chat session.

The dependent claims, bring definite, further limiting, and fully enabled by the specification are also allowed.

Contact Information

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cam Y T. Truong whose telephone number is (571) 272-4042. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tony Mahmoudi can be reached on (571) 272-4078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Cam Y Truong/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2169